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LISBON FOR OKUN

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SUBJ: THE US-EC DIALOGUE DURING THE DANISH PRESIDENCY: A
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I. INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

1. MOST OF THE DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE US EMBASSY IN THE
EUROPEAN COMMUNITY (EC) PRESIDENCY CAPITAL AND THE HOST
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MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MFA) DEALS WITH POLITICAL
AS OPPOSED TO ECONOMIC/COMMUNITY SUBJECTS. THIS REVIEW
OF THE DANISH PRESIDENCY IS CONSEQUENTLY LARGELY
DEVOTED TO AN APPRAISAL OF HOW THE US-EC POLITICAL
DIALOGUE AND THE INTRA-EC POLITICAL COOPERATION PROCESS
WORKED IN COPENHAGEN OVER THE LAST SIX MONTHS. THE
TELEGRAMS UNDER REFERENCE ARE OUR "UMBRELLA" RECAPI-

TULATIONS OF REPORTING ON THE EC MEETINGS HELD HERE.

2. THE DANES THREW MUCH OF THEIR MFA RESOURCES AND THEIR TOP TALENT INTO THEIR PRESIDENCY, AND THEY ACQUITTED THEMSELVES VERY WELL INDEED. IN FACT, FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF THE WAY THE US-EC DIALOGUE WORKED, WE THINK THE SECOND DANISH PRESIDENCY WAS A MODEL.

3. WE BELIEVE WE WERE ABLE TO ADD TWO NEW DIMENSIONS TO THE DIALOGUE. THE FIRST WAS THE PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT OF THE AMBASSADOR WITH THE HIGHEST CAREER LEVEL OF THE MFA IN CONNECTION WITH SUMMIT AND FOREIGN MINISTER MEETINGS. THE SECOND WAS ADDED VIA INTENSIFIED EMBASSY-MFA CONTACTS, AGAIN DIRECTED BY THE AMBASSADOR, ON THE ECONOMIC SIDE, RESULTING IN TIMELY INSIGHTS FROM THE DANES ON COUNCIL MATTERS AND IN ENHANCED CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN DANES AND TOP US OFFICIALS IN WASHINGTON.

4. ON THE SUBSTANTIVE POLITICAL ISSUES, THE DIALOGUE WAS NOT PARTICULARLY MEATY. THIS WAS PRIMARILY DUE TO THE FEELING OF THE NINE THAT LITTLE OF IMPORTANCE IN POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS DURING THIS PERIOD WAS SUSCEPTIBLE TO JOINT EC INTERVENTION. THE SIGNAL "POLITICAL" ACHIEVEMENT OF THE DANISH PRESIDENCY WAS CONFIDENTIAL

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AGREEMENT ON HOW TO BRING GREECE INTO THE POLITICAL COOPERATION PROCESS WHILE PROVIDING AN OFFSETTING FORMULA FOR A DIALOGUE WITH THE TURKS. OTHER SUBJECTS OF DISCUSSION INCLUDED CSCE, CYPRUS/TURKEY, THE MIDDLE EAST AND AFRICA. FAILURE TO OBTAIN EC CONSENSUS ON INCREASING PRESSURE ON SOUTH AFRICA WAS PROBABLY THE GREATEST DANISH DISAPPOINTMENT.

59 THE DANES, AS PRESIDENT, ASKED FOR US ASSESSMENTS ON BELGRADE AND CYPRUS. WE REQUESTED DANISH ASSISTANCE IN PERSUADING THE NINE OF OUR VIEWPOINTS ON MATTERS ASSOCIATED WITH BELGRADE, THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION, CYPRUS/TURKEY, THE ILO, THE HORN OF AFRICA, AND THE UNSSOD. WE WERE TURNED DOWN BY THE NINE ON THE LAST THREE BUT OBTAINED VARYING DEGREES OF UNDERSTANDING AND AGREEMENT ON THE OTHER SUBJECTS.

6. WHILE RECOGNIZING BOTH THAT INTRA-EC POLITICAL COOPERATION AND THE US-EC DIALOGUE ARE SLOWLY MATURING PROCESSES, IT IS IN OUR STATED INTEREST TO FOSTER THEM. WE SUGGEST SEVERAL SPECIFICS: ASK

MORE OF THE NINE AND CONTINUE TO MAKE SURE WE RESPOND MEANINGFULLY AND QUICKLY TO THEIR REQUESTS; ENCOURAGE MORE HIGH-LEVEL US OFFICIAL VISITS TO PRESIDENCY CAPITALS; ESTABLISH STRUCTURED CONSIDERATION AMONG OURSELVES AND WITHOUT FOREIGN HOSTS ON WAYS TO STRENGTHEN THE SUBSTANCE OF THE DIALOGUE. END SUMMARY.

II. A CREDITABLE DANISH PERFORMANCE - THE STYLE

7. THE FIRST DANISH EC PRESIDENCY, JULY-DECEMBER 1973, WAS HEAVILY MARKED BY THE SPILL-OVER OF DR. KISSINGER'S "YEAR OF EUROPE", THE OCTOBER WAR, AND THE ATTENDANT ARAB OIL EMBARGO - WITH A SWARM OF SHEIKS PITCHING TENTS AT THE DECEMBER EUROPEAN COUNCIL MEETING IN CONFIDENTIAL

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COPENHAGEN. THESE OVERWHELMING INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS, THE INFANCY OF EC POLITICAL COOPERATION AND THE NEWLY OBTAINED DANISH MEMBERSHIP IN THE EC COMBINED

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TO PRODUCE A GENERALLY DISAPPOINTING PRESIDENCY. ALTHOUGH MUCH OF THE DISAPPOINTMENT STEMMED FROM CAUSES BEYOND THEIR CONTROL, THE DANES WERE DETERMINED THAT THEIR SECOND PRESIDENCY, JANUARY-JUNE 1978, WOULD BE A MORE SUCCESSFUL ONE.

8. IT HAS BEEN. NOT MUCH DRAMATIC HAPPENED.. BUT THEN, THE DANES DID NOT EXPECT DRAMA. THE NINE CONCLUDED THAT CONTEMPORARY POLITICAL EVENTS WERE, BY AND LARGE, NOT SUSCEPTIBLE TO EC INTERVENTION, AND THEY STAKED OUT NO NEW COMMON POSITIONS IN AREAS OF SUBSTANTIVE IMPORTANCE. THE US-EC POLITICAL DIALOGUE WAS, CONSEQUENTLY, NOT OF GREAT WEIGHT. WE WERE NOT, HOWEVER, CONFRONTED BY UNEXPECTED AND UNPALATABLE EC INITIATIVES, AND THE QUALITY AND QUANTITY OF INFORMATION, ASSESSMENTS, AND JUDGMENTS CONVEYED TO AND FROM THE NINE VIA THE DANES WERE IMPRESSIVE.

9. ALSO IMPRESSIVE, AT LEAST IN OUR VIEW, WAS THE PERFORMANCE OF THE DANES IN THEIR PRESIDENCY ROLE. THEY DIRECTED THE POLITICAL COOPERATION PROCESS EFFECTIVELY AND LEFT LITTLE OR NOTHING TO BE DESIRED IN THEIR DIALOGUE WITH US. THEY WERE PROMPT, CANDID, AND CONFIDENTIAL

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COMPLETE IN THEIR READOUTS, AND PROVIDED HELPFUL COMMENTS WHEN FURNISHING US WITH PRE-MEETING AGENDAS. WE BELIEVE THAT THE PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT OF THE AMB WITH THE HIGHEST CAREER LEVEL OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY ADDED AN IMPORTANT NEW DIMENSION TO THE US-EC DIALOGUE. THIS RELATIONSHIP RESULTED IN REMARKABLY COMPREHENSIVE BRIEFINGS ON ALL THE MEETINGS, BUT ESPECIALLY ON THOSE NOT USUALLY INCORPORATED IN THE US-EC DIALOGUE: THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL MEETING AMONG HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT, AND THE INFORMAL, "OFF-THE-RECORD" MAY FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING. IN FACT, FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF THE WAY THE US EC-EC DIALOGUE WORKED, WE THINK THAT THE SECOND DANISH PRESIDENCY WAS A MODEL.

10. WHAT ELSE CAN BE SAID ABOUT THE STYLE OF THE DANISH PRESIDENCY?

-WHEN THE NINE DISAGREED AMONG THEMSELVES THEIR DIFFERENCES WERE MINIMIZED IN THE DANISH READOUTS, EXCEPT AT THE MEETINGS THE AMB HAD WITH THE DANISH PERMANENT UNDER SECRETARY. THIS FRANKNESS IN TERMS OF "WHO SAID WHAT TO WHOM" IN THE EC-9 MEETINGS WAS UNDOUBTEDLY DUE TO THE CLOSE PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO MEN.

-THE SMALL DANISH FOREIGN MINISTRY WORKED VERY HARD. FOR THEM THESE PAST SIX MONTHS, IT WAS THE ONLY GAME IN TOWN. THE OFFICERS RETAINED REMARKABLE COMPOSURE AND FREQUENTLY AND CHEERFULLY GAVE US LATE-EVENING READOUTS WHEN THEY MUST HAVE BEEN EXHAUSTED. THEY WERE ALSO WILLING TO MARSHALL PRACTICALLY ALL THEIR TOP BRASS TO BRIEF US IN DEPTH ON, FOR EXAMPLE, THE APRIL 7-8 EUROPEAN COUNCIL MEETING THE SAME AFTERNOON THAT IT WAS CONCLUDED.- THE DANES' FORTHCOMING ATTITUDES ALSO CARRIED OVER INTO RECEPTIVENESS TO A DIALOGUE ON ECONOMIC ISSUES INITIATED HERE IN COPENHAGEN.

III. ECONOMIC COOPERATION - A NEW DIMENSION

11. ON THE ECONOMIC SIDE, THE US-EC DIALOGUE GAINED A NEW DIMENSION THROUGH INTENSIFIED CONTACTS IN COPENHAGEN BETWEEN THE EMBASSY AND THE MFA'S ECONOMIC DEPARTMENT. AN INFORMAL MECHANISM WAS CONFIDENTIAL

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DEVELOPED RESULTING IN A USEFUL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THE LEADING ECONOMIC ISSUES AND IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF CHANNELS LINKING KEY DANES WITH THE U.S. UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND THE U.S. MTN NEGOTIATOR IN GENEVA.

12. THIS NEW DIMENSION WAS VALUABLE FOR A NUMBER OF REASONS. WE RECEIVED ADVANCE READOUTS ON EC COUNCIL MEETINGS IN BRUSSELS AND LUXEMBOURG, THEREBY SUPPLEMENTING REPORTING BY USEC, PROVIDING TIMELY INSIGHTS FROM THE DANES, AND PERMITTING THE INJECTION OF US VIEWS DURING PREPARATORY STAGES OF THE EC DECISION-MAKING PROCESS. POST-COUNCIL MEETING READOUTS MADE AVAILABLE INFORMATION WHICH OTHERWISE MIGHT NOT HAVE BEEN GIVEN SO QUICKLY OR AT ALL. ALSO, IT PROVIDED A MEANS FOR MONITORING ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN BY THE DANISH FOREIGN MINISTER ON BEHALF OF THE EC AND STIMULATED EXCHANGES BETWEEN DANISH AND US REPRESENTATIVES IN BRUSSELS. IT IS OUR ASSESSMENT IN COPENHAGEN THAT THE ECONOMIC DIALOGUE INITIATED HERE PROVIDED AN EXTRA ELEMENT TO US-EC CONSULTATIONS AND WAS OF HELP TO THE DANES IN THE EXERCISE OF THEIR EC LEADERSHIP ROLE OVER THE PAST SIX MONTHS.

IV. POLITICAL COOPERATION THE SUBSTANCE

13. TURNING TO THE SUBSTANTIVE SIDE OF THE DANISH PRESIDENCY, WE WILL REVIEW:

-WHAT THE DANES SAID THEY EXPECTED. - WHAT THE IMPORTANT ISSUES PROVED TO BE. - THE MEAT OF THE US-EC POLITICAL DIALOGUE. WHAT THE DANES EXPECTED

14. BEFORE TAKING UP THE GAVEL OF THE PRESIDENCY, FOREIGN MINISTER K.B. ANDERSEN, IN A SPEECH BEFORE THE DANISH PARLIAMENT, SET OUT THE EXPECTED PRINCIPAL THEMES OF THE DANISH PRESIDENCY: (A) MORE COORDINATION OF EC ECONOMIC POLICIES; (B) RECEPTIVENESS TO ASPIRATIONS OF APPLICANTS GREECE, SPAIN AND PORTUGAL (ENLARGEMENT); (C) AN INCREASE IN THE FREQUENCY WHEN THE NINE SPEAK AS ONE ON POLITICAL MATTERS. (D) MAINTENANCE OF GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES.

WITH THE EXCEPTION OF #3, WE BELIEVE THE DANES LARGELY ACHIEVED CONFIDENTIAL

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THESE GOALS.

V. THE IMPORTANT ISSUES IN FACT ENLARGEMENT

15. ENLARGEMENT WAS THE DOMINANT THEME IN POLITICAL COOPERATION.
IT ALSO MARKED THE AREA OF GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT: THE NINE DECIDED

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LISBON FOR OKUN

BRUSSELS ALSO FOR USEEC

HOW TO BRING GREECE INTO THE POLITICAL COOPERATION PROCESS,
(A METHOD WHICH WILL BE USED FOR SPAIN AND PORTUGAL AS WELL),
AND DEVISED THE "THREE PRESIDENCY" FORMULA TO PROVIDE AN OFF-
SETTING DIALOGUE WITH THE TURKS AT THE SAME TIME.
AFRICA

16. THE NINE SPENT A GREAT DEAL OF TIME TALKING ABOUT AFRICA:
THE HORN, SOUTHERN AFRICA (SOUTH AFRICA, NAMIBIA AND RHODESIA),
AND MOST RECENTLY, ZAIRE. NO NEW COMMON STEPS OR INITIATIVES,
HOWEVER, WERE TAKEN ALTHOUGH VARIOUS EC MEMBERS BECAME INVOLVED IN
INITIATIVES SUCH AS THE WESTERN FIVE PROPOSAL ON NAMIBIA, THE ANGLO-
AMERICAN PROPOSAL ON RHODESIA AND THE FRENCH-BELGIAN ACTION IN
ZAIRE. FROM THE DANISH POINT OF VIEW, ONE OF THE REAL DISAPPOINT-
MENTS OF THEIR PRESIDENCY WAS THE INABILITY TO GAIN CON-
SENSUS AMONG THE NINE ON FURTHER PRESSURES ON THE SOUTH AFRICAN
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GOVERNMENT.CSCE

17. COOPERATION IN REACHING A COORDINATED POSITION ON CSCE IS FREQUENTLY HELD OUT AS ONE OF THE SUCCESS STORIES OF EC POLITICAL COOPERATION. NONETHELESS, IN THE FINAL DAYS OF THE BELGRADE CONFERENCE, THE FRENCH BROKE RANKS WITH THE OTHER EIGHT AND TABLED THEIR OWN PROPOSAL FOR A CONCLUDING DOCUMENT. THE NINE IN GENERAL, AND THE DANES IN PARTICULAR, WERE MORE DISAPPOINTED OVER THE OUTCOME OF THE BELGRADE CONFERENCE THAN WAS THE U.S. IN THE GENERAL CSCE-HUMAN RIGHTS CONTEXT, THE NINE ISSUED A RELATIVELY MILD STATEMENT ON THE SENTENCING OF THE SOVIET DISSIDENT YURI ORLOV AND A REPROACH TO ARGENTINA ON HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN THAT COUNTRY. EC PREPARATIONS FOR MADRID WERE DISCUSSED IN A PRELIMINARY FASHION AND THEN PLACED ON THE BACK BURNER.

CYPRUS/TURKEY

18. THE NINE AGREED TO UNDERTAKE TWO INITIATIVES. THE FIRST WAS A THREE-PRONGED DEMARCHE MADE IN ATHENS, ANKARA AND NICOSIA, URGING REASON AND FLEXIBILITY. THE SECOND WAS AN APPROACH TO WALDHEIM IN NEW YORK OFFERING THE GOOD OFFICES OF THE NINE IN CASE HE WISHED TO ATTEMPT TO CONVENE TALKS AMONG THE PARTIES DIRECTLY CONCERNED. AS FAR AS WE KNOW, NEITHER INITIATIVE WAS PRODUCTIVE. IN GENERAL, THE NINE "HOPE" THAT CYPRUS WILL BE "SOLVED" BEFORE GREEK ACCESSION TO THE EC AND OPPOSE "BRINGING IN" THE CYPRUS PROBLEM WITH THE GREEKS. THE EC HAS AVOIDED USING THE LEVERAGE THAT THE LINKING OF CYPRUS EITHER TO THE QUESTION OF GREEK ACCESSION OR TO THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE EC AND TURKEY MIGHT GIVE THEM. THE MIDDLE EAST

19. LIMITED EC DISCUSSION, A TYING UP OF LOOSE ENDS FROM THE PRECEDING BELGIUM PRESIDENCY (THE SADAT LETTER) AND NO NEW ACTIONS OR INTERVENTIONS.

OTHER AREAS

20. EC RELATIONS WITH ASEAN; TERRORISM: COOPERATION AT THE UN; ACCOMMODATION TOWARD YUGOSLOVIA; AND LOMAX II ENGAGED THE NINE'S ATTENTION.

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VI. THE DIALOGUE

21. THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION BETWEEN THE DANISH PRESIDENCY AND THE UNITED STATES WAS IMPRESSIVE, BOTH IN COPENHAGEN AND IN WASHINGTON, BUT A NEGOTIATING, GIVE-AND-TAKE DIALOGUE ON WHAT DO ABOUT IMPORTANT POLITICAL QUESTIONS DID NOT MATERIALIZE. WE ASKED THEM A FEW THINGS; THEY DID THE SAME OF US.

22. WHAT WERE THESE EXCHANGES? ON THREE OCCASIONS, THE DANISH PRESIDENCY ASKED FOR AN ASSESSMENT BY THE U.S. OF WHAT THE EC SHOULD DO, TWICE ON CYPRUS AND ONCE AT BELGRADE. THE DANES RECEIVED TIMELY REPLIES IN THE CASE OF THE FIRST TWO INSTANCES AND WERE OVERTAKEN BY EVENTS ON THE THIRD (THE UNEXPECTED TABBING OF THE FRENCH DRAFT).

23. THREE OTHER TIMES THE DANES INFORMED US OF ACTIONS THE NINE PLANNED TO TAKE (TWO CONCERNING CYPRUS AND ONE CONCERNING A REQUEST BY ICFTU TO OPEN TALKS ON SOUTH AFRICA), BUT WE DID NOT LEARN DIRECTLY WHAT IN FACT FINALLY HAPPENED.

24. WE ARE NOT COMPLETELY SURE HOW MANY APPROACHES THE US MADE TO THE DANES AS EC PRESIDENT IN VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL FORA. WE DO KNOW THAT THERE WAS INTENSIVE CONSULTATION, FOR EXAMPLE, AT BELGRADE.

25. WE APPROACHED THE DANES IN COPENHAGEN ABOUT THE ARAB DRAFT RESOLUTION PROPOSED AT THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION MEETING IN MAY AND WE ALSO MADE A DEMARCHE RE STRUCTURAL REFORM OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATION (ILO). IN THE FIRST CASE, THE DANES RESPONDED BY PROMISING TO URGE THEIR EIGHT PARTNERS TO ACCEPT THE US POSITION (THEY DID). THE NINE DID NOT ACCOMMODATE US ON THE ILO, AND ON TWO OTHER OCCASIONS WHEN WE MADE SPECIFIC REQUESTS, WE WERE TURNED DOWN. THE FIRST OF THESE WAS FOR A STATEMENT EXPRESSING SATISFACTION THAT THE SOMALIS HAD WITHDRAWN FROM ETHIOPIA. THE SECOND WAS FOR THE DELETION OF A REFERENCE TO AN INTERNATIONAL SATELLITE SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM WHICH WAS CONTAINED IN THE STATEMENT

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LISBON FOR OKUN

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PRESENTED BY THE DANES SPEAKING FOR THE NINE AT THE UNSSOD.

26. WE ALSO ASKED THE DANES TO PUSH THE OTHER EIGHT TO OBTAIN GREATER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE UNFICYP, BUT NOTHING HAPPENED, PRIMARILY BECAUSE OF EVENTS AND A FAILURE OF THE UN SECGEN TO SECOND OUR REQUEST.

27. FINALLY, WE PASSED A HIGH-LEVEL REQUEST TO THE NINE TO PRESS TURKEY TO BE MORE FORTHCOMING ON CYPRUS. IN ALL CASES, ALTHOUGH NOT NECESSARILY ALWAYS AGREEING WITH US, WE FEEL SURE THAT THE DANES WERE "HONEST BROKERS" WHO PRESENTED OUR VIEWPOINTS FAIRLY AND COMPLETELY.

VII. CONCLUSIONS AND LESSONS

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28. AS HAS BEEN THE CASE WITH OTHER OF THE SMALLER MEMBERS OF THE EC, THE DANES GAVE THEIR "ALL" FOR THE PRESIDENCY. IT WAS THEIR BRIEF CHANCE TO STEAL THE EUROPEAN SPOTLIGHT, AND THEY PERFORMED ADMIRABLY. AND IF IMITATION IS THE SINCEREST FORM OF FLATTERY, THE DANISH FOREIGN MINISTRY SHOULD HAVE ITS COLLECTIVE HEAD TURNED. THE GERMANS ARE SUPPOSEDLY ADOPTING MANY OF THE PRESIDENCY DEVICES THE DANES WORKED OUT, AND THE FRENCH HAVE REQUESTED A PAPER ON "HOW TO ORGANIZE A SUMMIT". THE OTHER EIGHT HAVE ALSO EXPRESSED THEIR APPRECIATION FOR THE DANES ACCOMPLISHING SOMETHING LONG OVERDUE: A COMPILATION OF DOCUMENTS REFLECTING THE BASIS FOR, AND THE RESULTS OF, THE EC EXPERIENCE IN POLITICAL COOPERATION.

29. NEVERTHELESS, IN SPITE OF THE SIGNIFICANT STRIDES TOWARD CLOSER POLITICAL COOPERATION TAKEN BY THE NINE SINCE THE FIRST DANISH PRESIDENCY IN 1973, THEY ARE AS YET TOO DIVIDED TO ACHIEVE THE POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE THEY ENVISION FOR THEMSELVES. IT IS A TAUTOLOGY THAT THE NINE WILL BE UNABLE TO EXERT THEIR TRUE COLLECTIVE POLITICAL WEIGHT ON INTERNATIONAL ISSUES UNTIL AND UNLESS THEY CAN AGREE MORE OFTEN AND ON MORE ISSUES.

30. PRESUMABLY WE WISH TO ENCOURAGE EC POLITICAL COOPERATION. ONE WAY TO DO THIS IS TO ASK MORE OF THE NINE. AT THE SAME TIME, WE SHOULD BE SURE THAT WE ARE RESPONSIVE TO QUESTIONS AND IDEAS THE NINE POSE TO US. VISITS BY HIGH-LEVEL AMERICAN OFFICIALS TO THE PRESIDENCY CAPITAL ARE ALSO IMPORTANT, PARTICULARLY WHEN THE PRESIDENCY IS HELD BY ONE OF THE EC'S SMALLER MEMBERS. IN DENMARK'S CASE, VISITS BY AMBASSADORS STRAUSS AND MACDONALD ON THE MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS AND BY AMBASSADOR GOLDBERG ON BELGRADE/CSCE HAD AN OBVIOUS IMPACT ON THE DANES, AND THROUGH THEM, ON THE EC. ALTHOUGH THE RECENT THOUGHT-PROVOKING VISIT HERE BY THE HEADS OF S/P AND S/S WAS PROBABLY NOT DIRECTLY CONNECTED TO THE DANISH PRESIDENCY, SUCH A POLICY-ORIENTED CALL ON THE
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DANES WOULD HAVE BEEN EVEN MORE USEFUL HAD IT COME TOWARDS THE BEGINNING OF THE DANES' EC LEADERSHIP TERM. MUCH COULD BE GAINED FROM EXPANDING THESE KINDS OF CONCEPTUAL CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN THE US AND THE PRESIDENCY COUNTRY.

31. THE US-EC POLITICAL CONSULTATION IS A LONG-TERM PROCESS. BOTH SIDES MUST BE ALIVE TO POSSIBILITIES FOR IMPROVING IT. THE "TURN-OVER" GET-TOGETHERS HOSTED BY USEC IN BRUSSELS FOR REPRESENTATIVES OF US EMBASSIES IN CAPITALS SURRENDERING AND ASSUMING THE PRESIDENCY ARE EXTREMELY USEFUL. THE WASHINGTON DIMENSION THAT EUR:RPE PROVIDES VIA VISITS TO THE CAPITALS AND ATTENDANCE AT THE USEC MEETING HAS BEEN INVALUABLE. BUT PERHAPS EVEN MORE SO THAN IN THE PAST, SUCH MEETINGS COULD FOCUS ON WHAT CAN BE DONE TO STRENGTHEN THE SUBSTANCE OF THE US-EC DIALOGUE. ALSO, FOLLOWING THE COMPLETION OF A PRESIDENCY, THE EMBASSY COULD REVIEW THE PREVIOUS SIX MONTHS WITH THE MFA IN ORDER TO TRADE IDEAS ON WHAT EACH SIDE COULD HAVE DONE BETTER.

32. WE BELIEVE IT IS IMPORTANT TO ENCOURAGE AN INTENSIFICATION OF THE DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE EC, ESPECIALLY AS THE NINE PREPARE TO BECOME TWELVE. WHAT WE AND THE PRESENT EC COUNTRIES DO IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS TO INCREASE THE LEVEL OF POLITICAL COOPERATION COULD WELL SET A PRECEDENT FOR THE TIME WHEN THE DIALOGUE INCLUDES GREECE, SPAIN, AND PORTUGAL. FOR THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT WITH THE ACCESSION OF THE THREE SOUTHERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, THE NATURE OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY WILL BE ALTERED SIGNIFICANTLY.
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: THE US-EC DIALOGUE DURING THE DANISH PRESIDENCY: A LOADED CIRCUIT
TAGS: SHUM, EAID, DA, US, GR, TU, XF, XJ, EEC, CSCE
To: STATE
Type: TE
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